

Message Text

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60

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /081 W

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R 231721Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7645

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMCONSUL BELFAST

AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

AMCONSUL LIVERPOOL

UNCLAS LONDON 19675

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, UK

SUBJECT: MICHAEL FOOT CALLS JOBLESS FIGURES "APPALLING"

1. THERE IS COLD COMFORT INDEED IN THE UK JOBLESS FIGURES ANNOUNCED FOR THIS MONTH -- 1,211,464 - OR 5.2 PERCENT OF THE WORKING POPULATION -- AN INCREASE OF 42,563 OVER NOVEMBER ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED SCHOOL LEAVERS FELL BY 8,787. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EMPLOYMENT, MICHAEL FOOT, DESCRIBED THIS LEVEL AS APPALLING AND THE "FIGURES AS BEING VERY SERIOUS INDEED."

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2. OMITTING SCHOOL LEAVERS AND ADULT STUDENTS, THE TOTAL

OF UNEMPLOYED FOR DECEMBER WAS 1,165,683 -- AN INCREASE
IN A MONTH OF 40,546. THE UK HAS 34,977 SCHOOL LEAVERS
ON THE UNEMPLOYMENT REGISTERS. OF THE TOTAL UNEMPLOYED
985,000 HAVE BEEN OUT OF WORK FOR MORE THAN FOUR WEEKS.
THE SEASONABLY ADJUSTED TOTAL OF UNEMPLOYMENT FOR DECEM-
BER IS 1,163,100, OR 5 PER CENT OF THE WORKING POPULATION.

3. VACANCIES ALSO FELL SHARPLY THIS MONTH. VACANCIES
NOTIFIED TO EMPLOYMENT OFFICERS TOTALLED 103,115 WHICH IS
12,585 LESS THAN THOSE REGISTERED IN NOVEMBER.

RICHARDSON

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